



What's New with the NGNGV Program?

June 2002

NGNGV Leaders Clarify Program's Future; RFPs Released

Leaders of the [NGNGV Program](#) met March 19–20, 2002 at the California Energy Commission headquarters in Sacramento to clarify the short- and long-term goals crafted by previous NGNGV industry working groups. Updates on current technologies, legislation, and funding paths further defined the program's direction and potential outcomes. The status of current projects was reviewed. Discussions of short- and long-term strategies built consensus on program priorities and defined steering committee roles and responsibilities. The meeting led to the release by NREL of two Phase II requests for proposals (RFPs):

- 1) *Next Generation Natural Gas Vehicle (NGNGV) Phase II: Vehicle Integration Projects, RFP No. RCI-2-32049*—available on NREL's [Contracts and Business Services Web site](#). This RFP was initiated to further the primary goal of designing, developing, prototyping, and readying for commercialization a class 3–6 compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicle and a class 7–8 liquefied natural gas (LNG) vehicle by 2004. Both vehicles have target oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) emissions of 0.5 g/bhp-hr and particulate matter emissions of 0.01 g/bhp-hr. This RFP was issued to a wide distribution on April 25. Proposals are due by June 27, 2002.
- 2) *Next Generation Natural Gas Vehicle (NGNGV) Phase II: 2007 Emissions Capable Prototype Engine Development, RFP No. RCI-2-32050*—available on NREL's [limited access Web site](#). This RFP was initiated to begin development of a class 3–6 CNG engine and a class 7–8 LNG engine that will meet the 2007–2010 EPA heavy duty engine regulations. Upon completion of these projects, possible integration of these engines into vehicles as part of a future NGNGV phase will enable full development of 2007-compliant vehicles by 2007. This RFP was issued on May 15. Proposals are due by June 27, 2002.

New NGNGV Fact Sheet Unveiled

A new fact sheet was distributed at the May 2002 Clean Cities Conference in Oklahoma City to clarify NGNGV goals and strategies. It is available by contacting the DOE Alternative Fuels Hotline (1-800-423-1363) or by downloading from the NGNGV Website ([PDF 266 KB](#)).

Phase I Projects Underway

Phase I projects consist of preliminary design and strategy development to assess available information on engine and vehicle technologies. All contracts have been awarded by NREL and work is underway (details on the [NGNGV contracts page](#)). Results are expected beginning Fall 2002.

Near-Term Engine Development Projects Selected

As recommended by participants of the March 2001 Working Group meeting, NREL has selected multiple projects that target NO_x + nonmethane hydrocarbon emissions of 1.5–1.8 g/bhp-hr. Announcements on awards are expected soon. These projects will help fill the product gap between now and 2004.

NGNGV Under New DOE Management!

In March 2002, DOE transferred the alternative fuels portion of the Fuel Utilization Program (of which NGNGV is a part) from the Office of Heavy Vehicle Technologies (OHVT) to the Office of Technology Utilization (OTU) to better coordinate natural gas work. Shortly after this transfer, a complete reorganization of DOE's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Office (EERE) began (of which OHVT and OTU were a part). NGNGV and other natural gas R & D projects will now be directed under a new program office called "Freedom Car and Vehicle Technologies" within EERE. Stay tuned for details.

What's Next?

Funding partners for NGNGV will meet in mid-July, 2002 at NREL offices in Golden, CO to select Phase II projects. Contract awards are scheduled to begin in August, 2002.

The NGNGV Program will be presented at the 2002 NGVC conference in Washington, DC the week of October 7, 2002.

The NGNGV program will be reviewed and Phase I results presented at a session of the 2002 SAE Truck and Bus Conference in Detroit, MI, November 18–20, 2002.